



# MISSION

## Spring 2006



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

**ROLAND GUTIERREZ**  
CITY COUNCILMAN  
DISTRICT 3

April 2006

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I would like to start off by hoping that everyone who lives and works in District 3 is enjoying a wonderful spring season. Since the last publication, several exciting happenings have taken place concerning our office and the District 3 community.

Recently, I gained necessary support from my City Council colleagues for the Hybrid Vehicle/Free Parking Pilot Program. This program would allow for free parking at city meters for owners or future owners of hybrid vehicles. The intent of this pilot program is to reduce the amount of unhealthy vehicle emissions that are put into our air.

Did you know that during the ozone seasons of 2000-2002, local air quality monitors in the San Antonio area recorded ozone levels above the concentrations allowed by the federal clean air standard? As a result of the levels recorded, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed the City of San Antonio in the dubious distinction of "non-attainment" basically meaning the City was not in compliance with the basic air standards set forth by the EPA.

The City is currently in the middle of a three-year re-evaluation by the TCEQ. At the end of the three-year period (2008), the TCEQ will redesignate San Antonio, hopefully earning "attainment" status with the EPA. It is programs like the ones we have created that will help this City reach a level of "attainment" and help improve the over all quality of the air we breath.

Another very exciting event that recently took place in District 3 was the John F. Kennedy tree-planting rededication ceremony that took place at beautiful Espada Park. Edward Kennedy Jr., eldest son of Sen. Edward Moore Kennedy, was on hand participating in the rededication ceremony honoring the late 25th President of the United States of America. The original tree planting also occurred at Espada Park, which took place on Monday, April 24, 1966.

In case you missed it, the District 3 office has moved to a new location on the Brooks City Base. The move was made in anticipation of the new Southeast Baptist Hospital at Brooks. The address of the new location is 8005 Crouch Road in building 624. Inside this edition of the Mission, we have included a map and directions to our new Field Office.

Southeast Baptist Hospital has officially broke ground for its new Hospital that will be built on Brooks-City Base. The new hospital is designed to have 400 beds and incorporate state of the art medical technology. Consequently, the existing Southeast Baptist Hospital will still provide health care services.

As always, to help you stay informed of community events and developments, please visit the District 3 website at [www.RolandGutierrez.com](http://www.RolandGutierrez.com) Also, I strongly welcome you to visit either the Field Office at Brooks-City Base or the City Hall office.

Yours in Public Service,

Roland Gutierrez

Roland Gutierrez,  
CITY COUNCILMAN, District 3



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# Councilman Gutierrez Receives Initial Support on Hybrid Vehicle /Free Parking Pilot Program

Councilman Roland Gutierrez authored and received the necessary support from his Council colleagues on the initial stages of implementing a pilot program allowing citizens who own hybrid vehicles free parking at city meters in downtown San Antonio. The program, when approved, will have a lifespan of one year to allow for a cost/benefit assessment at the year's end.

The Hybrid Vehicle/Free Parking Pilot Program is the first of its kind in Texas and the City of San Antonio. A hybrid or hybrid electric vehicle (HEV) utilizes two sources of power, a rechargeable energy storage system (battery) and a gasoline engine, which in turn only uses power when needed.

The intent of this program is to encourage the use of hybrid vehicles in San Antonio to help defray the impact of fossil fuel exhaust and other contaminating elements found in vehicle emissions. An additional possible benefit would be to reduce the island effect in our downtown area.

During the ozone seasons of 2000-2002, local air quality monitors in the San Antonio area recorded ozone levels above the concentrations allowed by the federal clean air standard. As a result of the levels recorded, the Texas

Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed the City of San Antonio in the dubious distinction of "non-attainment" basically meaning the City was not in compliance with the basic air standards set forth by the EPA.

In an effort to reduce ozone pollution, the City has participated in the TCEQ's "Ozone Action Day" program. In San Antonio, the program falls under the title of "Air Quality Health Alert"

(AQHA) days. Last year alone, the City participated in 20 AQHA days mandated by the TCEQ as a result of the "non-attainment" status.

The City is currently in the middle of a three-year re-evaluation by the TCEQ. At the end of the three-year period (2008), the TCEQ will redesignate San Antonio, hopefully earning "attainment" status with the EPA.

The Alamo Area Council of Governments has listed two pollutants that are of concern to San Antonio: volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrous oxides (NOx). These two elements combined create ground-level ozone, which are the key components in smog. "By driving a hybrid, you can do your share to help clean the air," says Isabel Chacon of AACOG.

In San José, California the City government has in place a similar, successful hybrid program that allows free parking for hybrid owners. There were economic benefits to the city as well as increased sales of hybrid vehicles to area dealerships. "It helped to reduce air pollution, it encouraged auto sales in San José, and it brought more people to visit our downtown," added Ron Gonzales, Mayor of San José.

For more information on the Hybrid/Free Parking Pilot Program, please visit [www.RolandGutierrez.com](http://www.RolandGutierrez.com).



## Local Business Spotlight The Alamo Work Source

The Alamo Work Source lives by its mission: "to build a premier workforce in America by providing employers and residents with the opportunities, resources and services to develop and gain a competitive edge in the global economy".

Currently the Alamo Work Source is working hard to help fund training programs and act as a "hiring partner" for the new Toyota plant in San Antonio. There are three jobs that Toyota is asking Alamo Work Source to find qualified candidates for: (1) skilled team member, (2) production group leader and (3) skilled group leader. All three jobs have additional information that can be found on the Alamo Work Source's website.

In addition to helping find qualified candidates for Toyota, Alamo Work Source Career Centers offers the following resources for the job seeker:

- Current job listings and referrals to companies that are hiring
- Access to computerized job banks
- Workshops on resume writing, interviewing techniques and strategies for conducting a successful job search
- Interest and aptitude testing
- Information on available education and training programs and providers
- Information on financial aid opportunities
- Career and labor market information-what jobs are hot, job trends, wage information, job requirements and more
- Self service resource rooms providing computers, with Internet access, resume writing software, job search and career materials, telephones, copiers, printers, fax machines and more
- Information and referral to community resource partners for services such as child care, transportation, housing assistance, etc.

Please click on [AlamoWorkSource.org](http://AlamoWorkSource.org) or call (210) 272-3260 for locations and directions to an Alamo WorkSource Career Center near you.



## Setting It Straight

In the Fall '05 edition of the District 3 Mission, the college education information for Rocky Aranda was erroneously reported at the fault of this office.

In the Winter '05 edition of the District 3 Mission, it was printed that construction of a multi purpose restroom and concession facility at the Skyline/Highlands (S.S. Lions Park) would begin. Due to environmental concerns based on an extensive environmental study of that area, that project has been postponed.

## This Month's Featured Neighborhood Organization: Highlands Community Alliance

The Highlands Community Alliance (established on March 2001) is the brainchild of District 3 community activist, Mary Wallace. Mrs. Wallace's desire was to create an organization that would get the community's stakeholders like residents, business owners, church delegates, and school representatives, together in deciding what needs to be done and how to build safer and more beautiful neighborhoods.

Currently the Highlands Community Alliance planned area, encompasses IH-10/Highway 90 to the north; Clark, Hiawatha, and Salado Creek to the east; Military Highway to the south; and IH-37 to the west. Also, the Highlands Community Alliance has been a bridge builder among the Highland Hills and Highland Park Neighborhoods, Southeast Highland Hills Good Neighbor Crime Watch and residents in or around the planned area.

The City of San Antonio and its Master Plan have created a Community Plan (blueprint) to help neighborhood organizations (1) define goals, (2) identify problems to address, (3) discuss neighborhood strengths that could be improved, and (4) develop strategies to reach a vision.

"Whenever we need advice or something done to our planned area," says Wallace, "Councilman Gutierrez and city staff always make it a priority to help us." The City of San Antonio believes that it is very important to allocate resources and give advice to newly forming and existing neighborhood associations.

Currently, the Highlands Community Alliance has no requirements for joining. Anyone in the planned area is invited to join and participate in meetings and events, which are designed to get residents involved in the decision making process of their neighborhoods. Highlands Community Alliance meetings are held the third Saturday of odd number months.

For more information on the Highlands Community Alliance or if interested in planning a neighborhood association, please contact the Planning Department at 207-7395.

## CPS Plans to Give Away 500 Trees

City Public Service Energy, as a way to promote its GreenShade tree program, will be offering District 3 residents 500 trees. The purpose of the GreenShade program is to help improve air quality, reduce storm water runoff and help in conserving energy.

Individuals receiving trees will be responsible for planting and maintenance; however, there will be assistance provided to those residents that are identified as physically disabled or have a medical condition that prevents them from participating in the GreenShade program.

In order to assist District 3 residents with submitting all necessary paperwork to CPS, Councilman Roland Gutierrez's office will act as a community link. For further information on the GreenShade program, please visit [www.RolandGutierrez.com](http://www.RolandGutierrez.com) or look for an application in the next issue of the District 3 Mission newsletter.



## Code Compliance Corner

The Department of Code Compliance seeks to enhance neighborhoods and their citizens' health, safety and general welfare through efficient and effective City Code enforcement. All actions shall be conducted in a responsive and fair manner focusing on customer service and public awareness, while respecting the property rights of our citizens.

Each District 3 Mission newsletter will be looking at questions and answers concerning Code Compliance.

**Q** What is a junked vehicle?

**A** A junked vehicle is defined as a non-operable motorized vehicle. It becomes a City code violation if it is kept at a residence unmoved for 45 consecutive days or more in public view.

**Q** When is the height of grass in a vacant lot or yard considered to be in violation?

**A** It is considered a violation when the height exceeds 12 inches.

**Q** If I have a code compliance complaint who can I call?

**A** Call 3-1-1. It's a simple, easy-to-remember telephone number that connects you to a Customer Service Representative. Also, the complaint may be registered anonymously.

**Q** Are residents allowed to park motor vehicles on their lawns?

**A** Residents are not allowed to park their vehicles on the front or side lawn of their home unless there is a permanent surface of concrete, brick, asphalt or gravel with defined borders designated for parking.

**Q** Do I need a permit for a garage/yard sale?

**A** Yes. A permit is required for all residential garage/yard sales on premises zoned or used for residential purposes.

**Q** What is the Noise Ordinance?

**A** The Noise Ordinance regulates the allowable noise decibel level according to zoning districts and time and day. Violation levels range from an excess of 63 decibels in residential zoning districts to 85 decibels in the entertainment zoned districts. The maximum fine for noise violations is \$2,000.

**Q** What if I miss a scheduled brush collection?

**A** If you missed your scheduled brush collection cycle or just need a personal collection, call 311 to request a free estimate on collecting and disposing of your materials.

## Outside City Hall Monica Guerrero County Court #7

The Honorable Monica E. Guerrero (County Court 7) is the first Hispanic female judge to see domestic violence cases in Bexar County. Prior to her election in November of 2002, she served as the Assistant Criminal District Attorney with the Bexar County District Attorney's Office from 1995 to 2002.

Judge Guerrero was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. She attended St. Joseph Middle School and graduated from Incarnate Word High School. She received her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at San Antonio majoring in Political Science. Judge Guerrero, in furthering her education, participated in the Council for Legal Education Opportunity Fellowship at the University of Missouri. In addition, she was awarded the Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of Missouri in 1991.

In addition to being licensed to practice law in Texas and a licensed member of the Texas Bar Association, Judge Guerrero is an active member of the following: San Antonio Bar Association, Mexican American Bar Association, Bexar County Women's Bar Association and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

While serving as a judge for County Court 7, she is the first to issue the use of the Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor (SCRAM), a device that is worn around the ankle to ensure individuals will stay alcohol free. Judge Guerrero is a strong advocate (inside and outside of the courtroom) for more money to be spent on counseling or other resources that will keep families united instead of being destroyed because of drugs, alcohol or abuse.

Accordingly, The Texas Center for the Judiciary, an organization that prides itself in educating judges and staff in administering justice with fairness, efficiency and integrity, has Judge Guerrero as a board member

Judge Guerrero has been given various honors and awards for her tireless and passionate work in family violence cases. Some of which includes Speaker at the Texas Center for Judiciary Statewide Conference, participant in the Courts in Schools Program, being featured on the Hallmark Channel Show New Morning (May 26, 2002, entitled "Spiritual Journeys"), participant in the "Kids Against Violence" art contest, writer and recipient of the Elected Official of the Year Award 2005 from the National Association of Social Workers award and recipient of the 2005 West San Antonio Chamber Doctoral Achievement.



## JFK Tree Planting Rededication

On Tuesday February 7, 2006, at the scenic Espada Park in the heart of the Southern Sector, Councilman Roland Gutierrez hosted a tree rededication in honor of the late John F. Kennedy in which a Lacy Oak Tree was planted. Attending and speaking at the event were Mayor Phil Hardberger, County Judge Nelson Wolff and District 10 Councilman Christopher "Chip" Haass.

The guest of honor was Edward M. Kennedy Jr., nephew of the late President and son of Senator Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts).

Councilman Gutierrez, during the ceremony, spoke of the late President and the significance he played in American society, "John Kennedy challenged us to get involved. He challenged us to be a part of the solution for a better America. He showed us that by our own individual effort we could make a difference in this great country."

The ceremony marked the 40-year anniversary of the original tree dedication that took place on April 24, 1966. At that time, Senator Kennedy and Joseph F. Gargan, first cousin of the late President, planted a Thornless Moraine Honey Locust that was brought in from the Kennedy Estate in Hyannis Port. Guests on hand for that event were U.S. Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, San Antonio River Authority officials and Youth Corpsmen.



## Around City Hall: City Attorney's Office

**Mr. Michael D. Bernard** became San Antonio's City Attorney in October 2005. As provided by the City Charter, the City Attorney is the chief legal advisor to the City Council, City management, and all the City departments.

As the City's lead lawyer, Mr. Bernard oversees a budget of \$5.8 million and directs a team of 58 attorneys and 35 support staff that provide legal services to the city, including the prosecution of misdemeanors in Municipal Court, handling civil litigation on behalf of the city in state and federal courts, drafting and reviewing ordinances and contracts, in general, ensuring that city officials receive sound advice and counsel on legal issues. The City Attorney's Office also coordinates legal services provided by outside counsel engaged to provide legal services to the City on specific matters.

Before joining the City, Mr. Bernard served as the First Assistant District Attorney for Bexar County for six years, assisting in the day-to-day management of 356 employees, including roughly 150 attorneys, with a \$18.5 million annual operating budget. Mr. Bernard began his legal career by establishing his own law firm where he worked for 11 years.

Mr. Bernard has a B.A. from the University of Texas at San Antonio, an M.A. from the School of Government and Public affairs at the American University, and a law degree from St. Mary's University of Law. Also, he is a frequent speaker for the State Bar of Texas' continuing legal education courses. He also serves as an adjunct professor of law at St. Mary's Law School, teaching trial advocacy.

Mr. Bernard and his wife, Theresa, have two children, Sam and Sophia. He is also a pilot that enjoys flying in his spare time.



**Steven K. Southers** is one of 58 Assistant City Attorneys working for the City of San Antonio. The City Attorney serves as chief legal advisor to the City Council, the City Manager and all City Departments, and represents the City in all legal proceedings. The Commerce and Visitor Services Division handles legal work for the Alamodome, Aviation, Boards and Appointments, Convention Center, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Cultural Affairs, Economic Development, External Relations, International Affairs and Public Utilities.

As part of his duties, Southers advises the City in the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in Reinvestment Zones. TIF encourages development in areas that are ruined, underdeveloped, or unproductive. Once approved for TIF, the developer spends his own money to put in roads, water, sewer and electric service, and is reimbursed for those costs later out of the increased taxes caused by the new development. TIF allows for development in areas that would not otherwise be developed in the reasonably foreseeable future.

A graduate of Holmes High School-class of 1977, Southers received a degree in Biology from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 1982, and graduated from Texas Tech Law School in 1988. After graduating, he worked in a San Antonio general practice law firm for five years before going solo for a year. In addition, he has worked for the Bexar County Child Support office, the Bexar County District Attorney and as a State Legislative aide. Southers enjoys bird watching at Mitchell Lake, going to the gym and playing basketball as well.



# Your Government at Work

## District 3 Events

- April 18

Sunny Slope Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Southside Lions Center, 7:00 p.m.
- April 21-30

Fiesta San Antonio—2006, [www.Fiesta-SA.org](http://www.Fiesta-SA.org) for schedule of events, 210-227-5191
- April 22

District 3 National Youth Services Day Trash Clean-Up., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- April 27

Southeast Good Neighbor Crime Watch. Mtg., Snoga’s Cafeteria. 7:00 p.m.
- April 28

San Jacinto Holiday - City offices closed
- April 30

Mission San Jose Spring Festival, Mission San Jose Grounds, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- May 1

Highland Hills Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Highland Hills Elementary, 7:00 p.m.
- May 5

Cinco De Mayo
- May 6

Mitchell Lake Audubon Bird-A-Thon 2006, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center (10750 Pleasanton Rd), 210-628-1639 for more information, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- May 6

Mission San Jose Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Mission San Jose Community Center, 10:30 a.m.
- May 11

Pecan Valley Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Pecan Valley Elementary, 6:30 p.m.
- May 13

Highland Park Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., James Bode Center, 10:00 a.m.
- May 15

Los Vecinos de la Misiones. Mtg., Mission Espada, 6:30 p.m.
- May 16

Sunny Slope. Mtg., Southside Lions Community Center, 7:00 p.m.
- May 20

Highlands Community Alliance Mtg., Highland Hills Apt., 9:30 a.m.
- May 25

Southeast Good Neighbor Crime Watch Mtg., Snoga’s Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.
- May 30

Memorial Day Holiday - City offices closed
- June 3

Mission San Jose Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Mission San Jose, 10:30 a.m.
- June 5

Highland Hills Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Highland Hills Elementary, 7:00 p.m.
- June 8

Pecan Valley Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., Pecan Valley Elementary, 6:30 p.m.
- June 8-11

35th Annual Texas Folk Life Festival, UTSA’s Institute of Texan Cultures, visit [www.texancultures.utsa.edu](http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu) for more information
- June 10

Highland Park Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg., James Bode Community Center, 10:00 a.m.
- June 19

Los Vecinos de la Misiones Mtg., Mission Espada, 6:30 p.m.
- June 20

Sunny Slope Mtg., Southside Lions Community Center, 7:00 p.m.
- June 29

Southeast Good Neighbor Crime Watch Mtg., Snoga’s Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.

## District 3 McCreless Community Link Service Center

922 Ada • 210-207-6570  
Mon. - Fri. (8am-6pm) • Sat. (10am-6pm)

### Services Include:

- Building Inspections
  - Garage Sale Permits
  - Code Compliance Concerns
  - Apply for Utility Assistance
  - Request/Purchase Immunization Records
  - Birth/Death Certificates
  - Dog/Cat Licenses
- Check and Submit COSA Job Applications
  - Pay Traffic, Parking and Misdemeanor Tickets
  - Reserve City & County Park Facilities
  - Police Reports
  - Receive Information on Garbage, Brush, and Recycling Pick-up

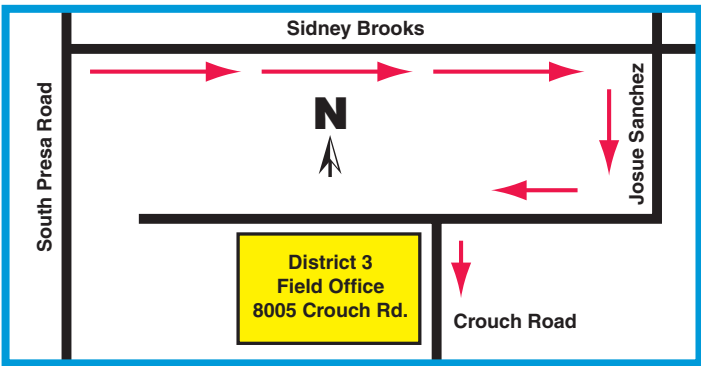
## Important Numbers

24 Hour City Hotline .....	311
Animal Rescue Center .....	351-Spay
Birth & Death Records .....	207-8754
Building Permits .....	207-8220
Fire non-emergency .....	207-7744
Garage Sale Permits.....	207-8263
Health Department .....	207-8780
Job Line.....	207-7280
Library Telephone Reference .....	207-2500
Literacy GED/ESL Classes .....	207-7323
Park Reservations .....	207-PARK
Public Information Office .....	207-7235
Report Smoking Vehicles .....	800-453-SMOG
SAPD Non Emergency .....	207-SAPD
Senior Citizen Services .....	207-7160
Tax Office .....	207-8680
Traffic Sign Signal Request.....	207-7000
Traffic Sign Signal Repairs.....	207-7765
Youth Services.....	207-7191
City Public Service.....	353-2222
SAWS Water Wasting .....	227-5143
SAWS.....	706-SAWS
Bexar Met .....	354-6500
Bexar Met Emergency .....	922-2141

## New Location for D-3 Field Office

As a result of the Southeast Baptist Hospital move to the Brooks City Base, the District 3 Field Office recently moved to 8005 Crouch Road bldg. #624. The new office is still located at the Brooks City Base and is easy to get to from the South Presa base entrance.

For detailed directions to the new location, please visit [www.RolandGutierrez.com](http://www.RolandGutierrez.com) or call 210-534-1300.



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